



CBR 201901: Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy

Webinar Questions and Answers

Jan. 24, 2019

Q: What is a CBR?

A: A CBR is a Comparative Billing Report, and it is created to compare providers' billing statistics to those of their peers on a state or specialty, and nationwide level.

Q: What codes are bundled with code 77301?

A: Code 77301 encompasses the complete planning process for a course of Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT) treatment. The services provided in CPT® codes 77014, G6015, and G6016 are considered to be part of the planning treatment codes; therefore, they should not be billed with CPT® code 77301.

Q: Is there a timeframe prior to or following the submission of code 77301 when these other codes can be submitted?

A: Because CPT® code 77301 is billed to represent the planning process for a course of IMRT treatment, codes 77014, G6015, and G6016 should not be billed within 0 – 14 days prior to or up to 60 days following the submission of CPT® code 77301.

Q: To confirm: If "eReview" is not found, then a CBR is not available for that practice? I find "eReview" is available for some of my practices, but not all of them.

A: The availability of a CBR is not related to eReview. Providers will receive a CBR when their billing statistics identify that they are significantly different from their peers for at least one of the metrics included in the CBR.

Q: Where would a CBR be sent if our provider was identified as an outlier?

A: If a provider is eligible to receive a CBR using the metrics explained in the webinar, an email is sent to the email address available in the [National Plan and Provider Enumeration System](#) (NPPES) database. If a valid email address is not available, the notice is sent via fax to the fax number in the NPPES database. Providers that do not have a valid email address or fax number in NPPES received their notification in hard-copy through the mail. Please ensure your email address and fax number are updated in the NPPES and the [Provider Enrollment, Chain, and Ownership System](#) (PECOS). The CBRs are not sent out; rather, they are available in the secure

CBR Portal at cbrfile.cbrpepper.org by using the unique validation code included in the email/fax/mail notification.

Q: How can the allowed be greater than the actual Medicare current paid amount?

A: Our analysis utilizes the allowed charges, which are based on the physicians' fee schedule. We use the allowed amount to use comparable amounts for the services provided and billed. The actual amount paid to the provider can vary based on several factors.

Q: If someone has a prostate IMRT practice, they are going to have a very high 77014 when compared to a general practice. Does this imply wrongdoing?

A: The statistics in the CBR do not imply that the provider is doing anything wrong. They reflect your billing patterns compared to your peers' patterns for the same services in your state or specialty, and nationwide. Practice patterns can vary by region, subspecialty, and patient acuity levels, which may impact your comparisons in this CBR.

Q: How will the CBR help reduce fraud and waste?

A: CMS releases CBRs with the hope that providers will use the data in a proactive manner to identify whether they should conduct an internal audit to determine whether any opportunities exist for improvement of documentation or in the coding, billing, or claims submission process. The coding guidelines and billing procedures discussed in the CBR and CBR webinar can help to support a compliant process within individual organizations.

Q: A professional fee radiation oncologist has no control over what his system bills for technical charges. Are CBRs released for only professional fee billing?

A: This CBR considers the claims data for IMRT-rendering providers. If you received a CBR, it summarizes your claims data for your professional billing associated with your National Provider Identifier (NPI).

Q: How do you get a validation code?

A: The CBR Team sends an email to the CBR recipients' email addresses, which are pulled from the NPPES database. If a valid email address is not available, the notice is sent via fax to the fax number in the NPPES database. Providers that do not have a valid email address or fax number in NPPES received their notification in hard-copy through the mail. Please ensure your information is updated in NPPES and PECOS.

Q: If you don't receive a CBR how can you obtain a validation code?

A: Only those providers who receive a CBR will receive a validation code. If you would like to view a sample CBR, you can visit cbr.cbrpepper.org\home.

Q: When the CBR 201901 Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy Webinar handout and webinar recording is posted on your website, will it include the missing slides?

A: There was not a missing slide; an editing error resulted in slides 28 – 29 not representing the consecutively-numbered list of metrics. This has been corrected in the handout.

Q: How do you define a peer group. It is apparent from our CBR that you are including radiation oncology centers and physicians billing professional component only.

A: The peer group would include the providers who were included in the CBR analysis. In this case, that would be any rendering provider who submitted Part B claims containing code 77301. Of these rendering providers, 98 percent worked in a radiology specialty and 95 percent work in radiation oncology.

Q: If you want to check to see if a provider employed by your organization received a CBR, is there a way to do that without a validation code?

A: If a provider within your organization received a CBR, a notification would have been sent to the email address, fax contact number, or physical address as listed in NPPES for your organization or for that provider. If an email, fax, or mailed notification wasn't received, then the provider did not receive a CBR.

Q: Are additional analytics planned or in progress for radiation oncology?

A: At this time, we do not have further analytics planned for radiation oncology.

Q: Can all physicians log on to the CBR website?

A: The [website](http://cbr.cbrpepper.org\home) cbr.cbrpepper.org\home is available to all; the site contains a sample CBR and various other resources regarding CBRs.